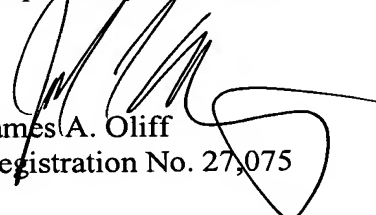


REMARKS

Claims 1-6 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, the abstract has been amended.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



James A. Oliff
Registration No. 27,075

Joel S. Armstrong
Registration No. 36,430

JAO:JSA/emt
Attachment: Abstract
Date: June 23, 2004

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<p>DEPOSIT ACCOUNT USE AUTHORIZATION Please grant any extension necessary for entry; Charge any fee due to our Deposit Account No. 15-0461</p>

Abstract

There is provided a device for bonding ceramic structural bodies. In the state in which a set of ceramic structural bodies provided with a bonding agent between bonding surfaces and provided with elastic sleeves disposed on a peripheral surface of the set of the structural bodies are placed in a tubular container with an elastic sheet disposed between the elastic sleeves and the tubular container, the device is able to charge a hydrostatic pressure medium between the tubular container and the elastic sheet to press and bond the structural bodies. By bonding the ceramic structural bodies with the device, it may provide accurate positioning of the bonding surfaces. It may also provide a uniform distance between bonded surfaces, and reduce the number of bonding operations, thereby affording an excellent working efficiency.